GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:839
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2007
SOIL EROSION IN COASTAL AREAS
Appadurai Shri M.

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that soil erosion has been occurring very often in many parts of the seashore/coastal areas in India particularly in Tamil Nadu, after Tsunami;

(b) if so, the preventive measures taken by Government to avoid such soil erosion in future.

(c) whether any State Government has requested the Union Government for getting any technical assistance to stop soil erosion in seashore/coastal areas of the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b). Yes Sir. The coastal States of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujrat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa. Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and UTs of Lakshadweep and Pondicherry have been experiencing problem of soil erosion in coastal areas. Primarily, the planning, investigation and execution of schemes to prevent soil erosion is the responsibility of the State Governments. These schemes are funded by the State Governments from the Annual Plan funds provided to the States by the Planning Commission under flood control. At present, the Government of India is offering financial assistance through two different schemes namely, (i) National Coastal Protection Project and (ii) State Sector Scheme for developing coastal protection structures to avoid soil erosion in future by making seawalls/groins and other anti-erosion works. Brief description of these schemes are:

(i) National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP):

The proposals of Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamilnadu, West Bengal and UT of Pondicherry have been included under NCPP.

(ii) State Sector Scheme (SSS):

The SSS, `Critical anti-erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga basin States` estimated to cost Rs. 46.17 crores, was implemented during X Plan. The anti-sea erosion scheme, `Construction of groin (400m) at Periathalai in Thoothukudi` estimated to cost Rs. 3.09 crore, received from Tamilnadu Government, was included in the State Sector Scheme. Out of the estimated cost of Rs. 3.09 crore for Tamil Nadu proposal, central share is Rs. 2.32 crore, which has been released to Tamilnadu Government during X Plan.

(c) & (d). The State Governments have been regularly approaching Central Water & Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune, under Ministry of Water Resources, for getting any technical assistance to stop soil erosion in seashore/coastal areas of the States.